



# On Watch

News for Naval Reservists in the Northeast

April 2003 - Spring

## Mobilization Affects Families in Northeast

Seabees join more than 1,200 Northeast Naval Reservists mobilized for Iraqi Freedom

By Journalist 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Joseph Holstead,  
USNR, NR NAVINFO East 102 NY

**THE BRONX** – Only a stone's throw from the “House that (Babe) Ruth Built” 44 “builders” from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 21 Detachment 1121 in the Bronx, lined the Naval Reserve Center's passageways on February 8th as they mobilized in support of Operation *Iraqi Freedom*.

The scene was duplicated throughout the Naval Reserve's Northeast Region, as 128 other Seabees from eight Naval Reserve Centers in upstate New York, central New Jersey, Connecticut and Rhode Island also prepared to join their shipmates from Naval Reserve Center, Bronx.

“You have to do what you have to do,” said Steelworker 1<sup>st</sup> Class Joseph Murphy with a grin. Murphy, who manages ironworkers for MTA New York City Transit, lives in Bergenfield, New Jersey. His upbeat and focused attitude was emblematic of the atmosphere that coursed through the Bronx facility as he and his NMCB DET 1121 buddies navigated through the mobilization process, filling out paperwork, getting last minute



IT2 Timothy Martin of Persian Gulf 102 out of NRC Bronx and his wife Sharon were in the world famous “kissing spot” in Times Square the day before Valentines Day. Petty Officer Martin and his wife posed for the photo just days before he was mobilized in support of Iraqi Freedom.

shots and making small talk as they answered their country's call to join the war on terrorism.

The scene was the same in Syracuse as 20 Seabees said their final goodbyes. “The further we get from September 11<sup>th</sup>, the more people forget about what happened,” remarked Petty Officer James Donnelly from Syracuse. “I just want to get over there and do what I have to do prevent some-

thing like that happening again.”

While anticipation of the job ahead was palpable, so, too, were concerns for family and loved ones they would be leaving behind. “We just moved to New Jersey and my family and I don't know many people yet, but the Ombudsman Program is a great relief because it provides an instant network and access to the greater Navy family.”

(continued on page 4)

---

**Inside... Lottery for Life -- New Space-A guidelines --New webpage for Reservists ... and more!**

---

# IBU 24, More Than Just a Small Boat Unit

By Army Staff Sgt. Steve Snyder,  
Fort Dix Public Affairs

**FORT DIX, N.J. (NNS) —**

As soldiers spin through the mobilization system on their way to fight the global war on terrorism, it's easy for all involved to forget that other services are going through the same momentous task. Inshore Boat Unit (IBU-24), a Navy Reserve unit stationed at Fort Dix, got a reminder this week as they received orders to mobilize.

To deter and destroy attacks, such as the one that killed 17 Sailors and injured 39 others aboard USS Cole (DDG 67), the U.S. Navy deploys inshore boat units that have, among other capabilities, the ability to man small crafts capable of punishing aggressors.

This mobilization marks the third time in two years the local unit has been either mobilized or recalled to duty. But that's okay with Electronics Technician 1st Class Troy Bezak. Bezak says he's been deployed more with IBU-24 than he was during his active-duty days. A policeman in the force at Little Egg Harbor in his civilian guise, Bezak notes that the station there has more than understood in allowing for his duties serving the country. His wife and three children are adjusting well to his deployment, too.

Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Ronald Owen has been with IBU for six years now. While he, "remembers the long days and really hot weather" on different cruises, Owen still considers service with

the unit to be an honor. "This crew is second to none," Owen insists. "Our corps of guys are like brothers - they're unbelievably faithful to the Navy."

Owen's wife and three children are doing well, too, although his 10-year-old has some trouble understanding why Dad's away so much. But still, members of IBU-24 drive on. They're motivated by patriotism, of course, but also by very strong bonds of camaraderie that only develop among the very best Sailors at sea. Their unit has even walked away with a Golden Anchor award, bestowed only upon outfits ranking top of the line in retention throughout the fleet.

Based on off-the-cuff conversations, morale is sky-high in IBU-24,

which consists of 34 enlisted Sailors and two officers, and has to be the most active Naval Reserve unit currently operating out of Fort Dix.

"From March 18 to Nov. 16 last year, we deployed to Puerto Rico and the Middle East (providing harbor protection, specifically, in the Arabian Gulf) doing antiterror and fleet protection missions for ships there," said Lt. Cmdr. David Johnson, Commander, IBU-24.

IBU 24's general mission is to provide a rapidly deployable, armed patrol boat capability, supporting expeditionary warfare security operations wherever U.S. naval forces happen to roam, worldwide. By executing this mission, the unit

*(continued on page 13)*



Sailors from IBU 24 move and stow gear prior to moving their patrol craft. Their boats resemble the PBRs (Patrol Boat River) that used to patrol the rivers of Vietnam for the "Brown Water Navy". (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Snyder)



## Naval Reserve Website Faces Big Changes

### RESFOR Offers a Website for each Reserve Command

By LCDR Randy Britton, USNR,  
REDCOM NE Public Affairs

Big changes are ahead for Web sites of all U.S. Naval Reserve activities.

Beginning April 1st, each Naval Reserve region will roll out a new Naval Reserve Web portal system to replace all existing U.S. Naval Reserve Web sites with a single integrated Web site that includes pages for each command.

The new Web portal system (<http://reserves.navy.mil> - no "www" prefix) will provide a wealth of information on news, instructions, forms, pay, benefits and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. All existing Naval Reserve Web sites will be phased out as the new system is put into place, with the aim of securing old sites by this spring.

"The biggest benefit for the Reserve Sailor will be better access to information that they can't get on the Web today," said ITCS (SW) Anthony Milligan, project manager at COMNAVRESFOR for the new Web system. "On current Reserve Web sites, plans of the month or personal e-mail addresses aren't allowed. Existing sites also require expertise in HTML to administer and support, which is difficult for many commands. Some units and Reserve Centers don't even have Web sites. Under the new system, everyone will."

The new Web portal system will replace all existing Navy Reserve Web sites with a two-tiered public

and private network. The public side will be accessible to anyone through the Internet; it will contain basic public information about the command, including news releases and biographies of leaders. The private side will only be accessed by members of the Naval Reserve via a secure log-in. The private side will feature a wealth of information from both local commands and Navy-wide sources.

"Our first goal was to establish for each Naval Reserve command a consistent and easily managed resource that would help Sailors to do their jobs using the Internet," said Milligan. "The second goal was to offer access to information that was previously restricted from the Internet for privacy or security concerns. With this new Web portal system, we will continue to inform American people about the work the Naval Reserve is doing, while also providing a private, collaborative Internet workspace for the entire Naval Reserve."

Public affairs officers and commanding officers will approve the content of the public side of the site; a three-tiered approval process will empower commands to post content most useful to them on the private side. Each command will have one content approver, at least one content "editor" and a number of "authors" who will originate information to be posted on the private Web site. Using the new content management system,

*(continued on page 4)*

## Admiral's Corner



As I write this, the war in Iraq has begun. I'm sure you have all been following the progress of the conflict as closely as I have, and are keeping those brave men and women at the front lines in your thoughts and prayers - they are your peers, colleagues, and fellow Americans who are defending our freedom and liberty with their lives. Reserve Sailors from the Northeast are among them, I'm proud to say. They are now responding not just to the threat of terrorism, but the danger posed by weapons of mass destruction and an evil dictator - and when the call came, they were READY.

It is times like these that we prepare for - times like these that are the very reason that a Naval Reserve exists. In the Northeast Region more than 1,900 Sailors have been called since September 11th, that's more than 28% of the region's Reserve Sailors. Today, more than 18% of our Sailors are

*(continued on page 11)*

**Mobilization** *(Continued from page 1)*

Murphy and his fiancée have two children, Emily, age 2, and Connor, age 1.

In Rochester, Company Commander Kenneth Weaver knows that his battalion is happy to serve, but of course, they will miss their families. "Some people just got married this week, and now they are going to deploy."

"My wife and I just got married yesterday. We were going to get married on Valentine's Day but because I'm being mobilized we pushed up the date," explained Construction Mechanic 2<sup>nd</sup> Class James Jarmacz. "My wife is dealing with it, but is a little scared, but this is what part of the job is."

Engineering Aide 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Jose Prieto, of Bellerose, NY, who, as a firefighter with Tower Ladder 144 faces uncertainty at work each day, had advice for his fellow Reservists. "Love your family, spend as much time with them as possible, and if there's an outstanding issue, take care of it now to ensure smooth sailing."

Maintenance Mechanic Bryce Bills had to leave his new wife and two-year-old son behind, but he knows that his family is prepared. "It's going to be hard, definitely, but I think I prepared everyone as much as I can—given them all the information they need. It's going to be hard, but we'll all get through it."

Despite the hardships they face, many also looked at the potential positives that could come out of their recall. The mobilization will be good for my Navy career, as I will have the opportu-

nity to make Chief while deployed, which would not have necessarily been the case otherwise," Murphy observed.

Cmdr. J. Paul Martirano, Commanding Officer of NRC Bronx, echoed this sentiment, saying, "some of our Sailors might feel a bit sad or anxious, but when it's all over, they'll probably say that it was one of the best experiences of their lives."

For Martirano, who is responsible for overseeing the training and readiness of nearly 1,000 sailors in the 10<sup>th</sup> largest Naval Reserve

Center in the country, the group is the largest he has had to mobilize to date. "We've had a number of individual recalls on a regular basis since September of 2001, but this is the biggest single group we've processed," he said.

Embodying the mobilization's tempo, and obviously up to the Seabees "Can Do" spirit, Matt Eifler, Construction Mechanic 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, of Baldwin, NY, summed it up for the group, "I know I'm coming back, and I know I'm going with the best!"



Sailors from Inshore Boat Unit 24 move their 27-foot aluminum hull patrol craft out of storage at the Vehicle Maintenance Facility in preparation for their upcoming deployment to the Mediterranean. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Snyder)

**Website Change** *(continued from page 3)*

authors will be able to add content to the site with a few simple clicks, a drag-and-drop or a quick "cut-and-paste" requiring no special knowledge of HTML. Designated representatives from each Naval Reserve Center will take training in February and March 2003; each will then conduct knowledge transfer with the rest of their full-time support staff in the next few months. (see sidebar)

"The beauty of this system is

that it will put management of Web content back in the hands of those who have the most knowledge in their areas of expertise – the Sailors themselves," said Milligan. "Instead of having to channel every minor change to the Web site through a single Webmaster to do HTML "magic," each responsible author will be able to update a page using only a Web-browser and a good command of English."

For more information on the new Naval Reserve Web portal, visit <http://reserves.navy.mil>.

# Winning the Lottery for Life

by JO1(SW/AW) Steven Bansbach  
REDCOM NE Public Affairs

When people think of winning a lottery, dreams of millions of dollars run through their head, but when Command Master Chief (AW/NAC) Earl Galloway attached to Naval Reserve Center, Fort Dix, New Jersey, won a lottery, it was a lottery to save a life. With the chances of 1 in 300,000, Galloway was the match to be a Bone Marrow Donor for someone with chronic leukemia.

An estimated 30,800 children and adults in the United States are diagnosed each year with leukemia, aplastic anemia or other fatal blood diseases, but the Navy has been at the forefront fighting these diseases. The Navy has been a pioneer in transplantation for more than 40 years, as part of a commitment to develop and deploy improved casualty care. Because of the biomedical expertise in the Department of the Navy, the DoD has played a vital role in the development of this life saving national program. Another reason for the success of this program is that the military is the nation's largest source of whole blood donations and military personnel more so than any other large organization meet the strict health and age requirements.

In 1996, Galloway was assigned to Patrol Squadron Ninety-One, Moffett Federal Airfield, California he decided to donate a test tube of blood thinking nothing would ever come of it. "It was six years ago that I donated, in fact I



**Official U.S. Navy File photo of bone marrow harvest at Georgetown University Hospital Washington, D.C.**

forgot about donating the blood, until they called me. It was a complete surprise."

The process starts small, but it can reap big dividends. It all begins with a brief and a small sample of blood is drawn. Analyzed samples are then stored in a database for potential matches for organizations around the world.

Initial notification for Galloway came in April of 2002, while assigned to the HCS-4 "REDWOLVES" in Norfolk, Virginia. Once identified as a potential match, the program assigns a coordinator who guides the volunteer throughout the entire process. "My family and command fully supported my being a donor. I received an information package that included everything from an informative video to vitamins."

Following a complete physical at Georgetown University, the transplant date was set for January 6, 2003 at the C. W. Bill Young Marrow Donor Center. The center provides for all of the medical and logistic support for DoD personnel

*(continued on page 12)*

# CMC's Scuttlebutt

by CMDM(AW) Rick Wolstencroft

Customer Service...A lot has been said about this topic from Admiral McLaughlin on down. It amazed me that we needed a conference and guidelines put out from Naval Reserve Forces Command to ensure we are doing this right.

The majority of the staff at each of our centers are Full Time Support (previously TARs). Hopefully we chose this designation because we desired to work with and train Reservists. I am concerned, and my concern rises from my meetings with many in the Region, that many became FTS for other reasons. Some to go to school full time, some because they saw it as a way to get the benefits of the Navy life, without the sea duty and deployments our Regular Navy counterparts endure.

I can tell you right now that I have tasked each command chief with ensuring that our Selected Reservists receive the type of customer service they deserve. If there are staff personnel that do not want to provide high quality customer service they need to be identified and counseled about their responsibilities.

We need to realize that the reason we exist is to provide support to the Selected Reservists so they can provide support to the fleet. When I was stationed at Naval Air Reserve Jacksonville

*(continued on page 10)*



# Navy Team Helps Mobilize More Than 150 Marines

by CDR Andrew Dipuccio  
CO, NRC Plainville

When more than 150 Marines from Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 25th Regiment were ordered to mobilize, the Navy team from Navy/Marine Corps Reserve Center here stepped in to provide critical support in a short amount of time.

Two full days of support were provided covering medical, legal and administrative requirements.

Medical officers and enlisted personnel from Naval Reserve Naval Medical Command, Portsmouth, Det. B, immediately stopped what they were doing and reported to the reserve center on short notice to handle all medical and dental readiness requirements for the Marines.

"When I arrived at the reserve center, the corridors were filled with Marines going through all types of administrative procedures to get their final orders for mobilization," said Cmdr. Tom Amerson, officer in charge, NMC Portsmouth, Det. B. "I made my way to the medical spaces and found my corpsmen hard at work, focused and doing a great job. Even though many of them have little time in service, they were performing like real veterans," Amerson continued.

But not everyone was new to mobilization orders. "I was there for the first day which consisted of a 12 hour day," said Hospital Corpsmen 3rd Class Jeffrey Norton. "The only thing I would say that having been through a mobilization myself, it was gratifying to be able to ease

*(continued on page 11)*



HM2 Thomas Mahoney, NR NMC PTSMT DET B, takes the blood pressure from Cpl Edward P. Muha III. In preparation for their mobilization more than 150 Marines of the Charlie Company of the 1st Battalion, 25th Marines headquartered in Plainville were medically screened.

(Below) LCpl George L. Ortiz, LCpl Flavio DePaul Mendes, Cpl Terry Rathburn, PFC Mike O'Brien and Pvt Luke O'Brien looks on while Cpl Julio Feliciano gets ready to have his gear inventoried. (Photos by ET1 Louis Kieth)



# MIUW 204 Reflects on Deployment

By Army Spc. George Allen, Joint Task Force Guantanamo Public Affairs

## GUANTANAMO BAY,

**Cuba** - "I got called on a Wednesday, and I was at the mobilization station by Saturday," said Fireman Robert Scarro, a Naval Reservist assigned to Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit (MIUWU) 204, "...so it took a few days for things to sink in."

"Many of these Reservists had less than 48 hours notice to report for duty," said Lt. Cmdr. John R. Ray. Nevertheless, they trained up for the mission — seaward surveillance of U.S. Naval Base, Guantanamo Bay (GTMO), Cuba, which they began in June and recently wrapped up.

Most Sailors of the 204th are from New York and New Jersey, and many were directly impacted by the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, said Ray.

Gunner's Mate Third Class Thomas Butler, a New York City firefighter in Squad 1, answered the call of duty and lost his life saving others from the falling World Trade Center towers.

"The memory of his heroic efforts have inspired the members of MIUWU 204 to be ever vigilant while deployed in support of the war against terrorism," said Ray.

Like an air-traffic-control of the sea, MIUWU keeps track of all vessels in the "sea lanes of approach," said Chief Quartermaster Doug Edwards. "We have radar, sonar and observation posts where we gather and process the information. We identify if vessels are friendly, and if not, we tell whomever we have to, 'Hey, we have a threat,' and have them take care of it."

MIUWU is in close communi-

cation with the Marine observation posts, the Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard, and functions as a command center, Edwards further explained. "We can have tactical control of aircraft or ships to have them identify or react to contacts."

A MIUWU contains surveillance capability, but it also has vehicles, boats, and maintenance and engineering sections. Their self-sufficiency makes the MIUWU a unique type of Naval Reserve unit.

Despite being self-contained equipment wise, MIUWU works as part of Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

The deployment has been a good experience for the unit, according to Lt. Brian Hillers, the 204th vehicle maintenance officer. "A lot of people got the chance to become cross-rated, which is a very unusual opportunity for the Navy."

# New Medals for the War on Terror

A presidential executive order signed March 12 authorizes the Department of Defense to create two new military medals for service in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT).

The GWOT Expeditionary Medal will recognize servicemembers who participate in an expedition to combat terrorism on or after Sept. 11, 2001. This is limited to those who deploy as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The GWOT Service Medal will recognize service in military operations to combat terrorism on or

after Sept. 11, 2001. This is limited to Operation Noble Eagle and to those servicemembers who provide support to Operation Enduring Freedom from outside the area of eligibility designated for the GWOT Expeditionary Medal.

The medals were recommended by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld "in response to our nation's global efforts to suppress terrorism, and the significant contributions members of the Armed Forces bring to bear on the long-term resolution of this threat."

Specific eligibility for these

medals will be established by DoD award policy. The combatant commander has the authority to award the medals for approved operations to units and personnel deployed within his or her theater. Each service department will prescribe the appropriate regulations for processing and wearing of the medals. Members of the U.S. armed forces and Coast Guard are eligible for the medals to include Reserve and National Guard activated to support approved operations. Civilians, foreign nationals and foreign military are not eligible.

# Medical Reservists Mobilized to Naval Hospitals

by JO1(SW/AW) Steve Bansbach  
Public Affairs REDCOM Northeast

Surgeons, corpsmen and dental technicians all over the Northeast were recently mobilized in support of contingency operations for a possible war in Iraq.

In all, a total of 111 medical Reservists from all over the Northeast reported to their Reserve center before heading to the processing center in Groton, Conn.

"I had a gut feeling about this. You like to think you're not going, but in the back of your head, you can sort of read between the lines," Hospital Corpsmen 3rd Class Tim Mara said.

Mara was proactive before the mobilization, easing the transition from his civilian life to his military life.

"When I got the call, my first thought was 'How am I going to prepare my family for this?' That is the hardest part. Luckily, I had already started preparing, by locating documents and taking care of bills a couple weeks before I got the call. It just made it easier, instead of causing a delay in the process," the Harvard, Mass., native said.

Cmdr. (Dr.) Peter Gerbino had his hands full when he got the call.

"I was in the operating room in the middle of an operation, and I got a page from my wife who said that Providence Reserve Center had called and I needed to call back. That was how I heard. When I called back, then I got the news," Gerbino said.

Mara, who is unemployed, but



Reserve Navy doctors, Corpsmen and dental technicians were recalled to fill billets in state-side Naval hospitals vacated by Naval Medical Corps personnel who are forward deployed in support of contingency operations for a possible war with Iraq. Navy photo by Lt. Cmdr. Roy Rice.

a licensed EMT and a nationally certified phlebotomist, said his wife was at the grocery store when he got the call.

"When she got home from the store, I told her that I was employed, but she wasn't sure what I meant. I think she was hoping that this wouldn't happen."

These Reservists, like so many others, are leaving behind families and jobs for at least a year. They'll fill in for other doctors and nurses who are already serving overseas or may be sent overseas.

"I'm not glad to leave my wife and children. I'm not glad to leave my practice," Capt. (Dr) Hugh Cowdin said. "But I'm okay with that."

"My wife and I spent six years

having a long distance relationship, so the distance doesn't interfere as much as it does for some people. My son is doing alright. I had just come off training in February, so I told him that I had to take another trip and that I would need him to take care of mommy," Mara said.

And even though families and jobs are left behind, every Reservist has a sense of pride answering the call.

"When we drove by where the Twin Towers used to stand, on our way down to Portsmouth Hospital, you know why you're doing what you're doing," Mara said. "The Navy needs us for our skills."





# OPSEC, It's Everyones Responsibility

by JOCS James Slater, NSA Naples  
Public Affairs

**NAPLES, Italy (NNS)** — In January, a Sailor — trying to do the right thing by sharing time sensitive information with a colleague — downloaded a document from his secure e-mail account and e-mailed the classified message via a non-secure account, according to an “All Navy Europe” message. The recipient of the classified e-mail followed the proper procedure by notifying the network administrator, and a number of workstations were isolated for three days until an investigation could be completed.

Fortunately for all concerned, the document had been overly classified and did not contain secret information. The time it took to complete the investigation and people being unable to use their workstations for three days, however, shows the unintended consequences of failing to follow proper operational security (OPSEC) procedures.

Although not everyone has a need for a SIPRNET (classified) e-mail account, each person working in a military environment has incidental information that, when pieced together with other seemingly harmless information, can help our adversaries figure out valuable information about our procedures and operations.

Lt. Dan Bethel, regional information systems security manager for Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Europe Central, said this incidental



**Operational Security (OPSEC) operates under the principle that one or more pieces of unclassified material, when put together, can damage security by revealing classified information. U.S. (Navy photo by PH3 Class Justin Proulx)**

information is so commonplace, we don't even think about its potential for usefulness to adversaries. As a result, we overlook the importance of protecting it in addition to maintaining a secure environment for classified information.

It's not just the handling of classified information we need to pay attention to; normal office procedures could present a hole in security, said Bethel. “A lot of people forget about the fact that fax machines are not secure,” he said. “Just remember, if it's data going over a non-secure phone line, it has the potential to be intercepted.”

Besides fax machines, proper phone and e-mail usage are also a large part of OPSEC. “If you even think you might be discussing something that is operational,” explained Bethel, “find a STU-III (secure telephone) and go secure. If

you think an e-mail might be sensitive, get to a SIPRNET terminal and use it.”

Another often overlooked item is the non-secure computer workstation. Because of the huge volume of information available through the use of local computer terminals and the potential for damage to entire networks, computer users must be sure to follow proper OPSEC procedures with regard to their computers.

One of the biggest oversights computer users can make has to do with their password, said Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples information systems security manager Guy Smoak. NSA Naples ISD regularly runs a password cracking utility program as a standard computer security measure.

“We used a common password

*(continued on page 14)*

## Reservists Aid in EUCOM's Humanitarian Assistance Program

by LCDR Anthony Grow,  
Contract Officer NRC Ft. Dix

**BAKU, Azerbaijan** -Each year, EUCOM provides funding for Humanitarian Assistance (HA) programs throughout Europe and Africa. The Naval Regional Contracting Center, Naples is often tasked with providing support for the program by sending a contracting officer to conduct the bid and award process for the Embassy requesting the funds from EUCOM. When other operational requirements demanded the NRCC Naples Contingency Contracting Officers' undivided attention, Naval Reserve NRCC Naples, DET 104 out of NRC Ft. Dix, New Jersey was asked to provide support to the Embassy in Baku.

When I received the assignment to award one HA contract to build a school in Azerbaijan, I was unsure of what to expect, but felt certain the contract would be easy to award. The reality was more professionally challenging and personally rewarding than I could have imagined.

The contract signing ceremony was an experience I will never forget. As we entered the cultural center, a dozen refugee children in native dress carrying flowers met our delegation from the U.S. Embassy, which included the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM), the Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC) and myself. After a brief welcoming ceremony, the Azeri Minister of Education and the local mayor led us to a packed auditorium where we were asked to

take our places at the table set up on center stage. After speeches in both languages, the contract to build an elementary school in that settlement was finally signed under the lights of the Azeri National News television cameras. The signing was followed by refugee children alternating performances of American and Azeri song and dance numbers.

The contract signing ceremony was certainly one of the highlights of my AT. Another was visiting the countryside and refugee camps in Azerbaijan. After the first contract was successfully awarded, EUCOM provided more funding for additional schools to be built in Azerbaijan. I was asked to assist the ODC with the selection process by traveling to potential sites for these schools. I toured the camps, met with government and school officials, and spoke with the children of Azerbaijan. It was amazing to walk into a former Soviet classroom and meet a room full of children who only spoke Azeri and English, only their teacher understood any Russian.

In one refugee camp, I met a schoolteacher who had watched the television coverage of the contract signing ceremony. Through an interpreter, she told me that she recognized me from the television, and that she had prayed to Allah that someone would come to help her school. She could not get over the fact that the very next day, here we were. For me, it was immensely rewarding to know that I was

working on a project that would directly impact the quality of life for these people.

During the two weeks I spent in Azerbaijan, I was able to award 3 contracts for a total of \$236,000. It doesn't seem like very much in terms of dollars, but when you consider the issues that are unique to overseas contracts and the FAR exceptions and sections not regularly used in stateside procurement, it makes for very challenging work.

NRCC Naples is currently involved in other HA projects and can always use a warrantable 3105 with experience in Contingency Contracting. If you are looking for a unique, challenging and rewarding experience, then you need look no further than the EUCOM HA program.

---

**CMC's Scuttlebutt** *(continued from page 5)*

there was a plaque that hung in the lobby of the building that reminded us every day, "Reservists are not an interruption of our work, they are the purpose of it."

I challenge each one of us to personally review our customer service skills. The survey just conducted will be our base line. The one conducted in August will show the trend on how our customer service is going. I expect to see great improvements in every area as we now know what exactly our "guidelines" are. But please, don't be satisfied with the minimums – let your reach exceed your grasp.



**Admiral's Corner** *(Continued from page 3)*  
currently mobilized. In the days, weeks, and months to come, we will mobilize more as we take a steady strain in support of the Fleet - and for that, we must remain READY.

Our Seabees, Corpsmen, Doctors, Master-At-Arms, and every other rate in the Northeast have seen duty around the globe, from Kandahar to Guantanamo Bay, and now in Iraq. We are on the front lines, and we are in this for the long-haul; even as our troops race toward Baghdad, we must realize that we need to pace ourselves; to keep up with our training; to stay serious in our resolve; to maintain our accomplishments; to achieve our goals; and most of all, to stay READY.

May God bless each of you and your families - keeping you strong, courageous, and committed to keeping America safe and READY, no matter what the future holds!!

**Marines Mobilized** *(continued from page 6)*  
the transition, medically, from reserve to active duty for the Marines."

Even though the main purpose of the corpsmen was to make sure they were medically fit, they also wanted to put some Marines at ease. "We did more than just check their records, we gave them encouragement and offered our thanks for answering the call to duty," remarked Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Kristen Buckbee. The support team, comprised of 13 personnel, provided medical record screening, immunizations, medical officer screening and dental screening.

In addition to receiving medical support, legal support was also provided to the Marines by Naval Reserve Volunteer Training Unit Law and Legal Mobilization Readiness Unit. Before deploying, Marines needed to make sure that their personal affairs were in order.

A legal mobilization readiness

brief was delivered over both days to 150 Marines. This brief answered questions they had and informed them of what documents they needed prior to their deployment. The legal support team prepared and executed 78 wills, 69 living wills and 75 powers of attorney.

Coordination with the Personnel Support Detachment at Navy Submarine Base Groton, Conn., was also conducted to ensure all Marines were issued active-duty ID cards. This was no small task considering the ID section was already overwhelmed with ID card requests by other mobilized units. Disbursing clerks and personnelmen offered outstanding support in a short amount of time.

The overall success of this mobilization reflects greatly upon "Team Navy," which consisted of both Reserve and active Navy personnel.

## On Watch

News for the Naval Reservists  
in the Northeast Region

**RADM Roger T. Nolan, USNR**  
*Commander, REDCOM Northeast*

**LCDR Randy Britton, USNR**  
*PAO, REDCOM Northeast*

**JO1 Steve Bansbach, USN**  
*Deputy PAO REDCOM Northeast,  
Editor "ON WATCH"*

On Watch is published quarterly by Naval Reserve Readiness Command Northeast. Submit your stories to [bansbacs@cnrf.navy.mil](mailto:bansbacs@cnrf.navy.mil)



EM1 Matthew G. Paquette (pictured) of NR ATG MAYPORT 201 has been selected as Naval & Marine Corps Reserve Center, Providence, RI's 2002 Selected Reserve Sailor of The Year. Petty Officer Paquette was cited for his contributions during Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom while mobilized with Inshore Boat Unit Two One (IBU 21) to Souda Bay, Crete. For a complete list of awards, check out the Bravo Zulu section on page 15.

# New Naval Reserve Forces Commander Tours NRC Bronx

by Ensign James McCue, Naval Reserve  
NAVINFO East 102

## BRONX, N.Y. (NNS) —

When the incoming Naval Reserve Forces Commander, Rear Adm. John P. Debbout, visited Naval Reserve Center (NRC), the Bronx March 22-23, he brought with him one simple message.

"I cannot ever thank you enough for doing what you are doing for your nation. I cannot thank your family enough for allowing you to do what you do for your nation," said Debbout to the couple of hundred Sailors gathered on the parade deck.

Debbout was in town to introduce himself as the successor to present Reserve Forces Commander, Rear Adm. John P. McLaughlin and meet with Bronx Reserve Center leadership to tell them the direction he plans to take Reserve forces in the next 3-5 years, according to Reserve Center Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Paul Martirano.

But the emphasis of his visit was to recognize the efforts of local Sailors taking part in Operation Iraqi Freedom, as well as the ongoing campaign in Afghanistan. He noted 25 percent of NRC Bronx has been mobilized to defend the country, having made a significant contribution to the 11,427 Reservists that have been forward-deployed thus far. "You are the ultimate volunteer," he said. "Our nation truly appreciates what we

do."

Debbout explained their mission is to apply decisive military power globally, anytime and any place, and that this can only be done effectively with Reservist support. "We are no longer a force and a Reserve, but one force," he answered.

Debbout emphasized that it is his and Navy leadership's responsibility to ensure that Reservists have the tools and resources to do their jobs. "Our Sailors should never have a problem when joining the fleet to help out the active duty," he said. "It is leadership's job to make sure they get there [to the fleet] with no problems."

Drawing on his 27 years in the Navy, Debbout said that it boils down to four words: world-class customer service. He told Sailors they are all customers, and leadership must do what is right to make sure their needs are met, especially their pay. He promised them that he is committed to this task.

Martirano thought it was a very positive experience for Debbout to meet with NRC leadership and to personally address the Sailors. "He came here to see what great New York Sailors we have, and it's great to show off the Bronx to the new boss," said Martirano.

Debbout will take over as Naval Reserve Forces Commander May 31. He currently serves as deputy commander.

## Lottery of Life *(continued from page 5)*

who wish to volunteer for the possibility of donating marrow to help save the life of a stranger. The program will also make accommodations for travel and pay to have a friend or family, accompany the volunteer during the procedure. With his wife, Master Chief Galloway completed the donor process. "I was sore for a couple of days but nothing compared what the recipient is going through."

Confidentiality is the utmost concern for the program. All information between the donor and recipient coordinators is done by numbers. The only information given to the donor and recipient is age and gender. Galloway learned his recipient is a 40-year old woman, however, through a program coordinator, donors do get progress reports on how well the patient is doing. After the surgery, Galloway learned that the recipient is doing well and is on her way to a complete recovery. After a short convalescent period, Master Chief Galloway returned to full duty.

Eligible volunteers under the DoD program include active duty military members and their dependents, DoD civilians, Reservists and National Guard and members of the Coast Guard. Under DoD Policy the Navy (Naval Medical Research Center) manages the program. The donor center is one of 94 donor centers that recruit donors who become registered as volunteers with the National Marrow Donor Program. If your interested in donating bone marrow check out the National Marrow Donor Program website at [www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org)



## Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs Thanks Bronx Sailors

by LCDR Christopher Scholl, USNR  
NAVINFO East 102

BRONX, NY, Friday, March 21, 2003—Sailors in the Bronx took a break from the numerous hours of preparing newly activated Reservists to have a Q&A session with Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, Mr. Tom Hall.

"I'm here today for three reasons: First, to honor the young men and women of our Armed Forces; second, to open the American Stock Exchange in honor of the 212,000 troops now serving in the theater of operations; and third, to visit Navy personnel, my branch of service for 34 years," said Assistant Secretary Hall.

Mr. Hall is a retired two-star Rear Admiral who served as the Executive Director of the Naval Reserve Association for six years. He is responsible for all matters concerning the 1.3 million Reservists in the United States Armed Forces, a Force that comprises 43% of all U.S. military capability.

Questions about TriCare and the difficulty of finding providers arose. Assistant Secretary Hall said he would take these concerns back to Washington and try to find innovative ways of making the health plan better by reducing the paper work and by adding more providers for all service members. When asked what Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's current thoughts of America's Reservists are, he explained by saying, "Mr. Rumsfeld is concerned about continually activating the same rates. Are the Guard and Reserves stretched



Secretary Hall speaks with Sailors at Naval Reserve Center Bronx. To his left is Commanding Officer Cmdr. Paul Martirano and to his right is VADM John Ryan

too far? He's thinking about doing what's right for the individual service members, while at the same time, keeping America's and her allies' best interest in the foreground."

YN1 (SW/AW) Hector Martinez was surprised to see the familiar shipmate. "RADM Hall flew with our squadron VP 65 in Point Mugu in the late 80's," Martinez said. Martinez and the staff at the Bronx center have been working arduously in the last few months on preparing the almost 180 local Reservists for active duty. "It can take two to three hours to process one person through medical, supply, admin. and the XO briefing. Some days we have five sailors being processed at the same time," Martinez explained.

Petty Officer Martinez summed up the visit of Assistant Secretary Hall: "It means a lot to us that the Assistant Secretary took time to visit our center and to speak

to us about our concerns. His personal encouragements will have a lasting effect on all of us."

**Small Boat Unit** *(continued from page 2)* makes possible safe passage of shipping within critical re-supply ports, inshore anchorages and inshore amphibious objective areas.

IBU-24 has about six combatant craft for use in executing its missions. The boats are 27-foot aluminum hull patrol craft that are powered by twin inboard/outboard diesel engines. They can be armed with .50-caliber machine guns, M-60s, MK-19 grenade launchers and other small arms.

IBU-24 will be deployed to the Eastern Mediterranean working for the 6th Fleet.



**OPSEC** (continued from page 9)

cracking utility to try and crack passwords in Naples,” said Smoak. “We were able to crack 50 percent of the passwords within the first four hours.” He said users could help increase security by choosing passwords that are harder to guess. “We found 80 to 90 passwords that used the word ‘password’ as the access code and another 40 or so that used ‘Naples,’” said Smoak.

He recommended that passwords be at least seven characters long but that using 12-13 characters is much better. One way for users to make passwords harder to access is the use of substitutions. Users can substitute “1” for the letter “l;” “@” for the letter “a,” or “\$” for the letter “s.” An example: @\$signed1963.

Smoak also said password-protected screen saver is another way to protect information. When not at their terminals, users should lock their workstations by pressing the following keys together: Control-Alt-Delete-K. An alternative is to use a password-protected screen saver that locks the terminal automatically if the computer is not used for a specified period of time.

The worst thing a person can do is to use a word directly from the dictionary as a password – password-cracking utilities use dictionaries as a basis for their primary attempts to figure out passwords.

While security of high-tech communications is routine in a military environment, low-tech communications is also a concern. Bethel recommends a few items to help people remain on the safe side

of OPSEC. For example, people should always check their garbage before it is taken out. Even if a document isn’t designated as classified, if it’s work-related, it’s better to put it in a burn bag, just to be safe. Other items on the over-looked list are envelopes, notepads, planners and the ever-present “yellow stickies.” Any piece of paper that might have something work-related on it should go into the burn bag.

Bethel also said that OPSEC is not limited to the job environment. If conversation at a restaurant turns to shop-talk, sensitive information can be disclosed accidentally. Also, family members who hear conversations and see e-mails can accidentally disclose information about operations or deployments. An unintentional disclosure of this type of information can cancel out months of operational planning and endanger lives worldwide. Our adversaries are watching and waiting and only need to be lucky occasionally to carry out their missions effectively.

The key to proper operational security is vigilance. While most people wouldn’t willingly hand sensitive information to a known adversary, they don’t often think to use a secure means of transmission. The result, however, is still the same – information getting into the wrong hands.



## Dependents Travel Free in the States

The Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Transportation Policy) has approved a one-year test to evaluate the expansion of space-available privileges for dependents traveling within the Continental United States (CONUS). The test will allow dependents of active duty and retired Uniformed Services members to travel within the CONUS when accompanied by their sponsors. The test is scheduled to begin 1 April 2003 and will end 31 Mar 2004.

Dependents will assume the same category of travel as their sponsor.

Space-available sign up for this program will be effective 1 April 2003. Retired members may sign up 60 days in advance but no earlier than 1 April 2003.

Active duty Uniformed Services members must be in a leave or pass status to register for space-available travel, remain in a leave or pass status while awaiting travel, and be in a leave or pass status the entire period of travel.

For additional information concerning space-available travel and sign-up procedures please review the Air Mobility Command public web site at <http://amcpublic.scott.af.mil/Spacea/spacea.htm> or contact the servicing DOD air terminal of interest.



# Bravo Zulu

## Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal

ICCS Grantier (New Haven)  
MSCS Davis (CBMU 202, New Haven)  
BMCM Foster (VTU, New Haven)  
CDR Michael Baker (VTU 0413 Ft Dix)  
YNCS(AW) Frank Whaley ( Ft. Dix)  
OSC N. I. Ross (NR FLTMAINTUNIT, Bronx)  
CDR Usseglio (NR DIILS 501, Providence)  
LCDR Joseph Davila (CNRMA Det B, Glens Falls)  
CAPT Leonard Dato (COMSCEUR, Quincy)  
LCDR Stacey RogersS (COMSCEUR, Quincy)  
CDR Michael Sweeny (VTU, Quincy)  
CAPT Michael Detzky (VTU LAW 0413, Ft. Dix)  
UT1 Charles Hill (CHB-8, Ft. Dix)

## Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

HM1 Donald Twitty (Det 401, New Haven)  
HM1 Michael Gudelski (Det 401, New Haven)  
HM1 Robert Daly (Det 401, New Haven)  
YN1 McCray (New Haven)  
LCDR Jean Joseph (Ft. Dix)  
MN1 Richard McClellan (Ft. Dix)  
MR1 Daniel Dauzat (Ft. Dix)  
HT2 Gabriel Rukeyser (Ft. Dix)  
QM1 M. J. Kearny (NPERSGULF, Bronx)  
IT3 S. A. Hanchar (NPERSGULF, Bronx)  
MA1 F. Gonzalez (NR PTSMTH, Bronx)  
MM1 J. Maynard (Bronx)  
GSM2 Touch Phat (Albany)  
HM2 Brian Yetter (Worcester)  
FCC George Kisiel (NSSF 201, New Haven)  
SKC Joel Dimaapi (NSSF 201, New Haven)  
IT1 George Kuenneke (NAVSUBSCOL, New Haven)  
LT Farwick (NR NAVSEADIV NPT, Providence)  
LCDR Bastein (NR NAVSEADIVNPT, Providence)  
BU1 Thomas Degroff (NMCB-133, Glens Falls)  
IC2 Susan Acker (CNRMA Det B, Glens Falls)  
YN1 Bernadette Crumb (SSB2, Horseheads)  
SK1 K. Clark (Rochester)  
MA1 Mark Greene (NSY PORTS NH 501, Rochester)  
MA2 David Hartz (NSY PORTS NH 501, Rochester)  
BM2 G. Calderon (NSY PORTS NH 501, Rochester)  
BM2 Beckwell (Amityville)

SK2 Hasemann (FFG AUG 39, Amityville)  
DK2 Moncayo (FFG AUG 39, Amityville)  
GSM1 Christman (FFG AUG 39, Amityville)  
ET2 Wolff (FFG AUG 39, Amityville)  
BM2 Bershaw (FFG AUG 39, Amityville)  
HT1(SW) Richard Valentine (NH 401, Brunswick)  
HM1 Steven Stockford (NR NNMC Bethesda Det D, Brunswick)  
LT Christine Cleaves (NR NNMC Bethesda Det D, Brunswick)  
HM1(FMF) David Remis (Brunswick)  
SKC Joel Dimappi (SSFDET601, New Haven)  
CWO4 Timothy Potter (SSFDET601, New Haven)  
PN2 Flores (Manchester)  
BU3 Watson (Manchester)  
BU2 Vidoli (PHIB CB 2 Det 101, Manchester)  
YN1 Joseph Augustine (Ft. Dix)  
PC1 Ovidio Duran (SSB2, Ft. Dix)  
HM1 Jack Van Horn (NR FLT HOSP DET 6, Ft. Dix)  
HM2 Marilyn Meloni (4THFSSG 4MB SURG B4, Ft. Dix)  
HM3 Laurie Cuoco (4THFSSG 4MB SURG B4, Ft. Dix)

## Meritorious Service Medal

STSCM Hamilton (NR SUBSCOL, New Haven)

## Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal

EN1 Bessette (CART, Worcester)  
PN2 Crouch (Worcester)  
FN Matthew McCarthy (VTU, Worcester)  
HM3 Sean Thompson (NAVHOSP, Worcester)  
SW2 Thomas Shea (NMCB 27, Worcester)

## Sailor of the Year

HM2 Bryan Yetter (Worcester)  
YN2 Khristina Armstrong (Worcester)  
PN1 Lucinda Calderon (Ft. Dix)  
AK2 John Weber (NAVICP PHIL TM ONE, Ft. Dix)  
MA1 Anthony Tripolone (CLF MICFAC, Albany)  
YN1 Evelyn Parsons (MANCHESTER)

*(continued on the next page)*

**Bravo Zulu** *(Continued from previous page)*

MA1 Kenneth Westhaver (NR CLF MAST Manchester)  
IT2 Charles Bragg (NR SSB HQ 101, Quincy)  
PN1 Cheryl Fitzpatrick (Quincy)  
EO2 Stephen Ellingham (NMCB 21, Rochester)  
SN Timothy Farrell (Det 501, Rochester)  
SK1 Ken Clark (Rochester)  
EO1 Derek Sansone (NMCB 21, Rochester)  
HM1(FMF) David Remis (Brunswick)  
HM1 Steven Stockford (NR NNMC Bethesda Det D, Brunswick)  
YN1 Joseph Augustine (Ft. Dix)  
PC1 Ovidio Duran (SSB2, Ft. Dix)

**Sailor of the Quarter**

YN1 Kathleen White (Ft. Dix)  
MA1 Robert Tighe (CLF MICFAC, Albany)  
YN1 Karen Karnes (Albany)  
STG1 Churchill (NR AD Det 3, White River Junction)  
BM3 Lyford (NR AD Det 3, White River Junction)  
FC1 Dante Arean (NR SPG-101, Quincy)  
BM2 Donald Golding (Quincy)  
BM2 Beckwell (Amityville)  
MA1 Ciccone (Amityville)  
YN1 Kathleen White (Ft. Dix)

**Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal**

HT2 Stephen Smith (SSB2, Horseheads)

**Letter of Commendation**

MA2 Luke Leszyk (NSA LAMAD Security)  
YN2 McKinley (Providence)  
IC1 George (Providence)  
SK3 Samuel Carrigan (SSB2, Horseheads)

**Letter of Appreciation**

CECN Griffin (7<sup>TH</sup> NCR, Providence)  
BM2 Johnson (Providence)

**Advancement/Promotions**

LT Stella Annunziato (FLT HOSP DET 6, Ft. Dix)  
CDR Travis Gery (NR CLAW SUPACT 104, Ft. Dix)  
CDR Linda Markert (NR FLT HOSP DET 7, Ft. Dix)  
LCDR Michael Matis (NR NCAPS DET C, Ft. Dix)  
LCDR Michael Burgess (NMCB 21 DET 0121, Ft. Dix)

**Reenlistments**

EO2 Frankie Alvarez (CHB-8 New Haven)  
BM1 John Mahoney (CHB-8 New Haven)  
UTC Michael Coyle (NMCB 21, New Haven)  
SK1 Avo Zaytounian (IBU-24, New Haven)  
PCC Luis Hernandez (SSB2, New Haven)  
BU1 Robert Young (NMCB 21, New Haven)  
BM3 Joseph Glasgow (CHB-8, New Haven)  
EN1 Alan Martino (IBU-24, New Haven)  
EN2 Joseph McGuire (IBU-24, New Haven)  
EO1 Keith Johnston (NMCB 21, New Haven)  
BU2 Edward Hornak (NMCB 21, New Haven)  
BM1 Ronald OwenN (IBU-24, New Haven)  
CE2 George Else (NMCB 21, New Haven)  
UT2 Alan Insogna (NMCB 21, New Haven)  
BMC Christopher Yeoman (IBU-24, New Haven)  
EM2 Tomas Pimenthal (IBU-24, New Haven)  
ITSN Michael Rothgery (NR FLT HOSP DET 14, Ft. Dix)  
OS1 Daniel Bada (NR NCAPS DET C, Ft. Dix)  
SH3 Donna Leo (NR FLT HOSP DET 14, Ft. Dix)  
BMC James Messier (CHB-8, Ft. Dix)  
PC1 Michael Batts (SSB2, Ft. Dix)  
YN3 Teresa Cabrera (SSB2, Ft. Dix)  
SK2 Michael Griffith (SSB2, Ft. Dix)  
SK3 Anthony Cervino (SSB2, Ft. Dix)  
PC1 Ovidio Duran (SSB2, Ft. Dix)  
EOC George Pearce (NMCB 21, Ft. Dix)  
SK2 Frederick King (CHB-8, Ft. Dix)  
HMC Edward Christiansen (NR FLT HOSP HQ, Ft. Dix)

**Armed Forces Reserve Medal**

CDR Robert Bazan (ATG, Worcester)  
CDR Michael Barry (Overseas Repair Facility Unit 0153, Brunswick)